

CLAIMS

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1. A method of transmitting information to a telephone subscriber terminal unit having hardware and software information processing means for managing it, such as a telephone terminal (3) or a master station (5, 7) of a shared installation (4, 6) serving a few telephone terminals (3') and/or mobile telephone terminals (8), from a telephone network to which the unit is connected through a local exchange (2, 2') and via one or a few analog telephone lines (L), characterized in that there is provision for sending command and/or information messages from the local exchange of the unit to the management logic unit (5D, 7D) that the information processing means of that unit includes, which is then the destination unit, in addition to sending speech signals and signaling in the conventional way between said exchange and said unit, each message being coded so that it can be transmitted from the exchange to the unit by an analog telephone line and transcoded in the unit in order to be interpreted therein.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein sending command and/or information messages to a telephone subscriber terminal unit from the local exchange of that unit follows a command effected by a user through the intermediary of the unit through which that user communicates.

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3. A method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the messages are messages whose content is intended to be at least temporarily stored at the unit that receives them.

4. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the messages are command transmission messages.

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5. Telecommunications equipment, of the local exchange

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B (2, 2') type, of a telephone network which is connected by analog telephone lines to telephone subscriber terminal units having respective hardware and software information processing means for managing them, and in particular telephone terminals (3) and/or master stations (5, 7) of shared installations (4, 6) serving telephone terminals (3') or mobile telephone terminals (8), said equipment, of the local exchange type, being characterized in that it includes hardware and/or software means enabling it to send command and/or information messages to the management logic unit (5D, 7D) of the information processing means of a telephone terminal unit in addition to sending speech signals and signaling in the conventional way between said exchange and said unit, each message being coded so that it can be transmitted via an analog telephone line from the exchange to the unit.

6. Telecommunications equipment, of the telephone subscriber terminal unit type, adapted to be connected by at least one analog telephone line to a local exchange of a telephone network, and in particular a telephone terminal (3) or master station (5, 7) of a shared installation (4, 6) serving telephone terminals (3') or mobile telephone terminals (8), said unit including hardware and software information processing means for managing it, said telephone subscriber terminal unit type equipment being characterized in that it includes hardware and/or software means for communicating and processing information enabling it to receive command and/or information messages from the local exchange via an analog telephone line in addition to speech signals and signaling transmitted from said exchange, said messages being decoded on arrival into a form that can be used by management logic in the information processing means so that it can be exploited.